

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 01499 01 OF 02 190025Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10
ABF-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 /122 W
-----069118 190045Z /14

R 190019Z APR 78
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0778
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: AORG, MARR
SUBJECT: UN FIFTH COMMITTEE: PROSPECTS FOR UNIFIL
- FINANCING DEBATE

1. SUMMARY: NORWEGIANS HAVE DRAFTED RESOLUTION ON UNIFIL
FINANCING AND ARE METHODICALLY COLLECTING GEOGRAPHICALLY
BALANCED LIST OF COSPONSORS. ALL ARAB DELEGATIONS EXCEPT
REJECTIONISTS EXPECTED TO SUPPORT RESOLUTION. EASTERN
EUROPEANS EXPECTED ABSTAIN AND WITHHOLD PAYMENTS OF
ASSESSMENTS AT LEAST AS LONG AS IDF IN LEBANON. SOVIETS
MAY INSTIGATE POLITICAL DEBATE IN PLENARY. JAPANESE
CONCERNED ABOUT PROCEDURE USED TO AUTHORIZE UNIFIL
INTERIM FINANCING AND BELGIANS THINK UNEF/UNDOF SCALE
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PAGE 02 USUN N 01499 01 OF 02 190025Z

GETTING OUT OF LINE. END SUMMARY

2. NORWEGIANS CONVENED WEO FIFTH COMMITTEE EXPERTS MORNING
APRIL 18 TO REPORT ON CURRENT STATUS THEIR DRAFT RESOLU-
TION PROVIDING FINANCING FOR UNIFIL ACCORDING TO
UNEF/UNDOF SCALE. NORWEGIAN DEPUTY PERMREP (VRAALSEN)
SAID NORWEGIANS ARE CONCENTRATING ON GHANA, FRANCE, NEPAL,

NIGERIA, CANADA, ARGENTINA, PERU, AUSTRALIA AND LEBANON AS COSPONSORS. SO FAR ONLY FIRST FOUR ARE COMMITTED. IRAN HAS DECLINED ON GROUNDS THAT TALIEH'S POSITION AS CHAIRMAN FIFTH COMMITTEE RESTRICTS ITS DELEGATION TO VOTING FOR AND SUPPORTING RESOLUTION. ARGENTINIANS HAVE BEEN ASKED TO INTRODUCE RESOLUTION, AND LEBANON WILL BE FIRST SPEAKER IN FIFTH COMMITTEE DEBATE ON UNIFIL FINANCING, FOLLOWED BY NORWAY.

3. ACCORDING VRAALSEN TUNISIAN PERMREP (MESTIRI) BRIEFED ARAB GROUP AT MEETING AFTERNOON AND EVENING APRIL 17 ON CONTENTS OF RESOLUTION AND INFORMED NORWEGIANS THAT ALL BUT FIVE REJECTIONISTS MEMBERS (ALGERIA, IRAQ, LIBYA, SYRIA AND SOUTH YEMEN) WOULD SUPPORT RESOLUTION. (LEBANESE DEPUTY PERMREP SAGHIYYAH TOLD USUN THAT ENTIRE ARAB GROUP WISHES RESOLUTION ADOPTED.) REJECTIONISTS WILL ABSTAIN FROM VOTING ON RESOLUTION.

4. VRAALSEN SAID EASTERN EUROPEANS, IN RESPONDING TO NORWEGIAN APPROACH, INDICATED THAT THEY WOULD ABSTAIN ON RESOLUTION. EAST EUROPEANS HAVE NOT INDICATED WHETHER ULTIMATELY THEY WILL PAY ASSESSED SHARE UNIFIL FINANCING, AND VRAALSEN PREFERS NOT TO PRESS THEM ON THIS POINT AT PRESENT IN BELIEF MAIN EFFORT SHOULD CONCENTRATE ON GETTING RESOLUTION CONFIRMING COLLECTIVE FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY OF MEMBERS ADOPTED BY WIDEST MAJORITY POSSIBLE. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 USUN N 01499 01 OF 02 190025Z

NEVERTHELESS, EASTERN EUROPEANS HAVE INDICATED TO VRAALSEN THAT THEY WILL NOT AGREE TO PAYING UNIFIL ASSESSMENTS SO LONG AS IDF IN SOUTH LEBANON. VRAALSEN IN STEADY CONTACT WITH SOVIETS TO DEPRIVE THEM OF OPPORTUNITY CHARGE THAT THEY WERE NOT CONSULTED ON PREPARATION OF RESOLUTION.

5. LEBANESE ARE TELLING US THAT SOVIETS WISH TO INSTIGATE POLITICAL DEBATE IN PLENARY MORNING APRIL 20 (THURSDAY). IN RESPONSE TO DIRECT QUESTION BY USUN MISOFF, SMUN (GRODSKY) SAID SOVIETS WOULD ARGUE THAT ISRAEL SHOULD PAY FULL COST OF OPERATION, BUT WOULD NOT REPEAT NOT INTRODUCE RESOLUTION TO THAT EFFECT. GRODSKY INDICATED ALSO THAT SOVIETS WILL MAKE POLITICAL SPEECH IN PLENARY THURSDAY AND TALIEH (IRAN), PROSPECTIVE FIFTH COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, ALSO INDICATED HE ANTICIPATES POLITICAL DEBATE IN PLENARY.

6. TWO OTHER POINTS OF POSSIBLE INTEREST EMERGED FROM WEO FIFTH COMMITTEE MEETING MORNING APRIL 18. AKASHI (JAPAN) INDICATED CONCERN THAT SECURITY COUNCIL HAD APPEARED TO AUTHORIZE SYG COMMIT UN FUNDS ON

BASIS OF COSTS ESTIMATED BY HIM AT \$68 MILLION AND WITHOUT REFERENCE TO UNGA. AKASHI ASSERTED SECURITY COUNCIL HAS NO BUSINESS AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURE LEVELS AND SHOULD HAVE CONDITIONED ITS APPROVAL UPON ULTIMATE GA ACTION, FOLLOWING A THOROUGH BUDGETARY REVIEW. SECONDLY, AKASHI ASSERTED NO UN MEMBER STATE SHOULD BE ASSESSED GREATER ABSOLUTE AMOUNT FOR UN PEACEKEEPING OPERATION THAN LEAST AMOUNT ASSESSED ANY PERMANENT MEMBER OF SECURITY COUNCIL. HE INDICATED JAPANESE DELEGATION MIGHT CALL FOR PEACEKEEPING SCALE WEIGHTED MORE TOWARD PERMANENT MEMBER RESPONSIBILITY FOR THESE OPERATIONS. (STUART - UK - VIGOROUSLY PROTESTED THAT SUCH SYSTEM WOULD BENEFIT FRG AND JAPAN AT EXPENSE

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PAGE 01 USUN N 01499 02 OF 02 190025Z
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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 02 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 01499

FRANCE AND UK.) AKASHI SAID GOJ HAS NOT DECIDED ON ITS VOTING POSITION IN REGARD TO UNIFIL FINANCING.

7. PIRSON (BELGIUM) STATED HE WAS NOT CONVINCED SCALE PROPOSED FOR UNIFIL IS "NORMAL". HE RECALLED THAT SCALE HAD BEEN ADOPTED AS COMPROMISE IN 1973 AT A TIME WHEN UN REGULAR ASSESSMENT SCALE, TO WHICH UNEF/UNDOF SCALE

IS KEYED, DID NOT PROVIDE RELIEF TO CERTAIN "WELL OFF"
MEMBERS UNITED NATIONS AFFORDED NOW BY SCALE ADOPTED AT
32ND UNGA. THOSE "WELL OFF" MEMBER STATES NOW ENJOY
EVEN GREATER RELIEF FROM PEACEKEEPING ASSESSMENTS AS
RESULT OF VARIOUS POLITICAL REMISSIONS CONTAINED IN
PRESENT SCALE THAN THEY ENJOYED WHEN UNEF/UNDOF SCALE
WAS FIRST DEVISED. PIRSON SAID BELGIUM WILL NOT OBJECT
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PAGE 02 USUN N 01499 02 OF 02 190025Z

TO THIS DURING DEBATE, BUT HE FELT SUBJECT COULD BE
IMPORTANT TOPIC FOR "INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS".

8. JAPAN AND CANADA EXPRESSED PARTICULAR CONCERN
AT EFFECT UPON UN'S SHORT TERM DEFICIT THAT MAY
EVENTUATE FROM SIGNIFICANT WITHHOLDING OF PEACEKEEPING
ASSESSMENT BY UN MEMBER STATES. YOUNG

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